Docket No. PI.131 Serial No. 10/566.597

In the Claims:

2

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

1 (Currently amended). A process for preparing an elastic fiber, comprising the steps of: adding from 1 to 20% by weight of a cellulose acetate to a polyurethane or polyurethaneurea solution, based on the total weight of the polyurethane or polyurethaneurea, wherein the cellulose acetate is first dissolved in an organic solvent, the resulting solution is homogeneously stirred for 7-8 hours and then added to the polyurethane or polyurethaneurea solution to obtain a mixture, and homogeneously stirring the mixture to obtain a spinning solution, wherein the homogeneous stirring time of the mixture is increased by 30 minutes for each increase of 1% by weight of the cellulose acetate present in the mixture;

ripening the spinning solution; and

spinning the ripened solution;

wherein after the addition of the cellulose acetate, the homogeneous stirring is carried out for at least 2 hours, and the spinning solution is ripened by allowing it to stand at a temperature of 30 °C to 70 °C for 28 to 38 hours;

and wherein the elastic fiber has high modulus, alkali resistance, and heat resistance.

2 (Previously presented). The process according to claim 1, wherein the cellulose acetate is cellulose diacetate or cellulose triacetate having a degree of acetylation of from 28 to 72%.

3 (Previously presented). The process according to claim 1, wherein the polyurethane or polyurethaneurea solution is obtained by reacting an organic diisocyanate with a polymeric diol to form a polyurethane precursor, dissolving the polyurethane precursor in an organic solvent, and reacting the precursor solution with a diamine and a monoamine sequentially.

4 (Original). The process according to claim 3, wherein the organic diisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of diphenylmethane-4,4' –diisocyanate, hexamethylenediisocyanate, toluenediisocyanate, buthylenediisocyanate, and hydrogenated p,p-methylenediisocyanate; the polymeric diol is selected from the group consisting of polytetramethyleneether glycol, polypropyleneglycol, and polycarbonatediol; the diamine is selected from the group consisting of ethylenediamine, propylenediamine, and hydrazine; and the monoamine is selected from the group consisting of diethylamine, monoethanolamine, and dimethylamine; and the organic solvent is selected from the group consisting of N,N' – dimethylformamide, N,N' – dimethylacetamide, and dimethylsulfoxide.

5 (Previously presented). The process according to claim 1, wherein the spinning solution further contains at least one additive selected from dulling agents, UV stabilizers, antioxidants, NO_x gas anti-yellowing agents, anti-adhesion agents, dyeing promoters, and anti-chlorine agents.

6 (Canceled).

7 (Currently amended). An elastic fiber prepared by a process comprising the steps of: adding from 1 to 20% by weight of a cellulose acetate to a polyurethane or polyurethaneurea solution, based on the total weight of the polyurethane or polyurethaneurea, wherein the cellulose acetate is first dissolved in an organic solvent, the resulting solution is homogeneously stirred for 7-8 hours and then added to the polyurethane or polyurethaneurea solution to obtain a mixture, and homogeneously stirring the mixture to obtain a spinning solution, wherein the homogeneous stirring time of the mixture is increased by 30 minutes for each increase of 1% by weight of the cellulose acetate present in the mixture:

ripening the spinning solution; and

spinning the ripened solution;

wherein after the addition of the cellulose acetate, the homogeneous stirring is carried out for at least 2 hours, and the spinning solution is ripened by allowing it to stand at a temperature of 30 °C to 70 °C for 28 to 38 hours:

and wherein the elastic fiber has high modulus, alkali resistance, and heat resistance.

8 (Currently amended). A velvet fabric manufactured using an elastic fiber prepared by a process comprising the steps of:

adding from 1 to 20% by weight of a cellulose acetate to a polyurethane or polyurethaneurea solution, based on the total weight of the polyurethane or polyurethaneurea, wherein the cellulose acetate is first dissolved in an organic solvent, the resulting solution is homogeneously stirred for 7-8 hours and then added to the polyurethane or polyurethaneurea solution to obtain a mixture, and homogeneously stirring the mixture to obtain a spinning solution, wherein the homogeneous stirring time of the mixture is increased by 30 minutes for each increase of 1% by weight of the cellulose acetate present in the mixture:

ripening the spinning solution; and

spinning the ripened solution;

wherein after the addition of the cellulose acetate, the homogeneous stirring is carried out for at least 2 hours, and the spinning solution is ripened by allowing it to stand at a temperature of 30 °C to 70 °C for 28 to 38 hours;

and wherein the elastic fiber has high modulus, alkali resistance, and heat resistance.